

GLOSSARY

- Acre-foot.** Volume of a domain (generally water) with a base area of one acre and a height of one foot; 43,560 cubic feet; 1,233.5 cubic meters; 325,872 gallons.
- Aquifer.** A geologic formation, group of formations, or part of a formation that contains sufficient saturated permeable material to yield useful quantities of ground water to wells, springs or surface water.
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR).** The injection of fresh water into an aquifer during times when supply exceeds demand (wet season), and recovering it during times when there is a supply deficit (dry season).
- Aquifer System.** A series of geologic formations which consist of two or more aquifers divided by lower permeability units.
- AWWA.** American Water Works Association.
- Backpumping.** The practice of pumping water that is leaving an area back into a surface water reservoir.
- Basin (Ground Water).** A hydrologic unit containing one large aquifer or several connecting and interconnecting aquifers.
- Basin (Surface Water).** A tract of land drained by a surface water body or its tributaries.
- BEBR.** Bureau of Economic and Business Research; a division of the University of Florida.
- Best Management Practices (BMPs).** Agricultural management activities designed to achieve an important goal, such as reducing pollutants in farm runoff, or optimizing water use.
- BOD.** Biochemical Oxygen Demand.
- Basis of Review (BOR).** The District's "Management of Water Use Permitting Information Manual Volume III," the formal criteria document governing the issuance of water use permits.
- Brackish.** Water with a chloride level greater than 250 mg/L and less than 19,000 mg/L.
- CARL.** Conservation and Recreation Lands.
- CFR.** Code of Federal Regulations.
- COD.** Chemical Oxygen Demand.
- Cone of Influence.** The area around a producing well which will be affected by its operation.
- Consumptive Use.** Any use of water which reduces the supply from which it is withdrawn or diverted.
- Control Structures.** Man-made structures designed to regulate the level and/or flow of water in a canal (e.g., weirs, dams).
- Conservation Rate Structure.** A water rate structure that is designed to conserve water. Examples of conservation rate structures include but are not limited to, increasing block rates, seasonal rates and quantity-based surcharges.
- CREW.** Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed.
- Critical Water Supply Problem Areas.** Areas that have experienced, or are anticipated to experience water supply problems in the next 20 years.
- Demand.** The quantity of water needed to be withdrawn to fulfill a requirement.

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Demand Management (Water Conservation). Reducing the demand for water through activities that alter water use practices, improve efficiency in water use, reduce losses of water, reduce waste of water, alter land management practices and/or alter land uses.

Desalinization. A process which treats saline water to remove chlorides and dissolved solids.

Dewatering. The use of wells or other such equipment to temporarily lower a water level as may be necessary during construction activities.

Drawdown. When a well is pumped, water is removed from the aquifer surrounding the well, and the water table or piezometric surface is lowered. The drawdown at a given point is the distance the water level is dropped.

Effective Rainfall. The portion of rainfall that infiltrates the soil and is stored for plant use in the crop root zone, as calculated by the modified Blaney-Criddle model.

Exotic Nuisance Plant Species. A non-native species which tends to out-compete native species and become quickly established, especially in areas of disturbance or where the normal hydroperiod has been altered.

FAS. Floridan Aquifer System.

FASS. Florida Agricultural and Statistics Service; a division of the Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

FDACS. Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

FDER. Florida Dept. of Environmental Regulation.

FDEP. Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection. New agency (7/1/93) created by the consolidation of the FDER and FDNR.

FDNR. Florida Dept. of Natural Resources.

Flatwoods (Pine). Natural communities that occur on level land and are characterized by an open pine canopy with an understory of shrubs and herbaceous plants. Depending upon soil drainage characteristics and position in the landscape, flatwoods can exhibit xeric to wet conditions.

GPD. Gallons Per Day.

GPM. Gallons Per Minute.

Ground Water. All water found beneath the surface of the earth in the voids, fractures, and pores or other openings of soil and rock material.

Hydroperiod. The period of time (duration) that water is available, above or below the substrate, to influence the development of plant and/or animal communities.

IFAS. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences; the agricultural branch of the University of Florida, including research, education, and extension.

Infiltration. The movement of water through the soil surface into the soil under the forces of gravity and capillarity.

Inorganic. Pertaining to, or composed of chemical compounds other than plant or animal origin.

Irrigation. The application of water to crops by artificial means. Purposes for irrigating may include, but are not limited to, supplying evapotranspiration needs, leaching of salts, and environmental control.

Irrigation Audit. A procedure in which an irrigation system's application rate and uniformity are measured.

Irrigation Efficiency. The ratio of the volume of water delivered to the target use to the volume of water withdrawn from a source.

Irrigation Uniformity. A measure of the spatial variability of applied or infiltrated water over the field.

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Kissimmee Basin (KB) Planning Area. The study area which extends from Orlando to Lake Okeechobee and which includes portions of Orange, Osceola, Polk, Highlands, Glades, and Okeechobee counties.

Lake Okeechobee. This lake measures 730 square miles and is the second largest freshwater lake wholly within the United States.

Levee. An embankment to prevent flooding, or a continuous dike or ridge for confining areas of land for irrigation by surface flooding.

Lower East Coast (LEC) Planning Area. The study area which includes a portion of Lake Okeechobee, portions of Collier, Monroe and Hendry counties, and all of Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties.

Lower West Coast (LWC) Planning Area. The study area which includes all of Lee County, most of Collier and Hendry counties, and a portion of Charlotte, Glades, and Monroe counties.

Lower West Coast Advisory Committee. A broad-based advisory committee consisting of representatives from interested and affected parties in the LWC Planning Area, including representatives from utilities, agribusiness, government, and environmental interest groups.

MCL. Maximum Contaminant Level.

MG. Million Gallons.

MGD. Million Gallons per Day.

mg/L. Milligrams per Liter.

MGY. Million Gallons per Year.

Micro irrigation. The application of water directly to, or very near to the soil surface in drops, small streams, or sprays (i.e., drip irrigation).

Mobile Irrigation Laboratory. A vehicle furnished with irrigation evaluation equipment which is used to carry out on-site evaluations of irrigation systems and to provide recommendations on improving irrigation efficiency.

NGVD. National Geodetic Vertical Datum; reference sea level from which elevations are measured.

Nuclide. A species of atom characterized by the number of protons, number of neutrons, and energy content in the nucleus, or alternatively by the atomic numbers, mass numbers, and atomic mass.

National Wetland Inventory (NWI). A branch of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that is responsible for defining, classifying and inventorying the wetlands of the United States and its territories.

Outstanding Natural Systems (ONS). Natural systems identified by the ONS Subcommittee, which should receive a higher level of review to protect them from deleterious impacts resulting from permitted water use, in order to maintain the ecological function of the region

ONSe. ONS lands that have been purchased for environmental preservation/conservation purposes.

ONSm. ONS lands that are used for multiple purposes (i.e., agriculture, residential, water supply, surface water management, etc.)

ONS Subcommittee. A subcommittee of the Lower West Coast Advisory Committee formed to prepare a map of the outstanding natural systems in the LWC Planning Area.

Organics. Being composed of, or containing matter of, plant and animal origin.

Permeability. The ability of porous media to transmit fluid.

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Potable Water. Water that is suitable for drinking, cooking, and other domestic purposes. The maximum chloride concentration is 250 mg/L.

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Process Water. Water used for nonpotable industrial usage, e.g., mixing cement.

Projection Period. The period over which projections are made, e.g., the 20 year period from 1990 to 2010.

PWS. Public water supply; potable water for public use.

Pyrophyte. A woody plant with unusual resistance to fire because of an exceptionally thick bark.

Pyrophytic. Relating to, or made up of pyrophytes.

Radionuclides. Unstable forms of chemical elements that produce radioactivity.

Reclaimed Water. Water that has received at least secondary treatment and is reused after flowing out of a wastewater treatment facility.

Reservoir. A man-made or natural lake where water is stored.

Reuse. The deliberate application of reclaimed water, in compliance with Dept. of Environmental Protection and District rules, for a beneficial purpose.

Reverse Osmosis (RO). The process of pressurizing a saline solution to force it through a semi-permeable membrane and separate water from solutes.

Rock Pits. Open pits created when shell rock or limestone is excavated

Retrofitting. The replacement of existing water fixtures, appliances and devices with more efficient fixtures, appliances and

devices for the purpose of water conservation.

SAS. Surficial Aquifer System.

Saline Water. Water with a chloride concentration greater than 250 mg/L. The term saline water includes brackish water and seawater.

Saline Water Interface. The hypothetical surface of chloride concentration between fresh water and seawater where the chloride concentration is 250 mg/L at each point on the surface.

Saline Water Intrusion. This occurs when dense saline water moves laterally inland from the seacoast, or moves upward, to replace fresher water in an aquifer (upconing).

SCS. The Soil Conservation Service; a federal agency which provides technical assistance for soil and water conservation, natural resource surveys, and community resource protection management.

Seawater. Ocean water which has a chloride concentration equal to or greater than 19,000 mg/L; seawater is also characterized by a total dissolved solids concentration of 35,000 mg/L.

Seepage Irrigation Systems. Irrigation systems which convey water through open ditches. Water is either applied to the soil surface (possibly in furrows) and held for a period of time to allow infiltration, or is applied to the soil subsurface by raising the water table to wet the root zone.

Semi-Closed Irrigation Systems. Irrigation systems which convey water through closed pipes, and distribute it to the crop through open furrows between crop rows.

Semi-Confining Layers. Layers with little or no vertical flow that can store ground water and also transmit it slowly from one aquifer to another. The rate of vertical flow is dependent on the head differential between the semi-confining beds and those above and below them.

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Stage. The elevation of water surface in a water body with respect to a specified datum.

Superfund Sites. Hazardous waste or contaminated sites that pose substantial threat to human health and the environment; these sites are put on the National Priority List (NPL) by the USEPA for remediation measures by responsible parties or government.

SWFRPC. Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council.

Storm Water. Rainfall that does not percolate into the ground or evaporate.

Subsidence. Lowering of the soil level caused by the shrinkage of organic layers. This shrinkage is due to desiccation, consolidation and biological oxidation.

Surface water. Water upon the surface of the earth, whether contained in bounds created naturally or artificially or diffused.

SWIM Plan. Surface Water Improvement and Management Plan, prepared according to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes.

TAZ. Traffic Analysis Zone; a geographic area used in transportation planning.

Transmissivity. The rate at which water is transmitted through a unit width of aquifer under a unit hydraulic gradient. It is a function of the permeability and thickness of the aquifer, and is used to judge the aquifer's production potential.

Turbidity. The measure of suspended material in a liquid (generally water).

Uplands. Areas that do not qualify as wetlands because the hydrologic regime is not sufficiently wet to cause the development of vegetation, soils and/or hydrologic characteristics associated with wetlands.

Upper East Coast (UEC) Planning Area. The study area which includes most of Martin and St. Lucie counties, and a small portion of eastern Okeechobee County.

USCOE. United States Army Corps of Engineers.

USFWS. United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

USGS. United States Geological Survey.

USEPA. United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Wastewater. The combination of liquid and waterborne discharges from residences, commercial buildings, industrial plants and institutions together with any ground water, surface runoff or leachate that may be present.

Water Conservation Areas (WCAs). That part of the original Everglades ecosystem that is now diked and hydrologically controlled by man for flood control and water supply purposes. These are located in the western portions of Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties, and preserve a total of 1,337 square miles, or about 50 percent of the original Everglades.

Watershed. The land area which contributes to the flow of water into a receiving body of water.

Water Supply Plans. Regional water resource and demand analyses generated by the District to provide a detailed evaluation of available water supply and projected demands through the year 2010.

Wetlands. Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do or would support, a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonably saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.

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Xeric. A plant, community of plants or ecosystem requiring only a small amount of moisture.

Xeriscape. The use of landscaping techniques to conserve water and reduce maintenance. Techniques include the use of drought tolerant plants, landscape layout, irrigation system design, and irrigation system management.